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Press Release For Immediate Release

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Substance found at education center identified

FORT STEWART, Ga. (July 27, 2007) – The substance found Thursday at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center was identified today as baby powder.

The powder was tested earlier today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's laboratory in Waycross and had already been determined to be non-harmful.

The baby powder was found in an envelope that a student had prepared as a briefing aid for a class project. At the end of the class, the student forgot the envelope in the classroom Thursday. The envelope was found later in the day by five people in the education center and determined to be suspicious.

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield 911 was notified of the suspicious envelope and installation emergency personnel responded appropriately to the incident to ensure the safety of the people in the education center. The building was evacuated as a safety precaution and classes were cancelled. As a precaution, the five people who found the substance went through a decontamination process and medical evaluation by a doctor at Winn Army Community Hospital.

The education center is open today and the cancelled classes have been rescheduled.